

# **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

445           A holding material used for a catalytic converter having  
a catalyst carrier shaped like a cylinder, a casing for receiving  
the catalyst carrier, and the holding material mounted on the  
catalyst carrier and interposed in a gap between the catalyst  
carrier and the casing, the holding material including a molding  
450 of inorganic fibers shaped like a mat or a cylinder, wherein  
at least an exhaust-gas-inlet-side end portion of the holding  
material is set to be smaller in basis weight than any other  
area of the holding material over a predetermined axial length.